

IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of the claims and their status as of this Amendment is as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A device (11) for hanging up handbags and other items from on tables and other structures, comprising:
with a band (13) which is U-shaped in the an open condition position, of an elastically resilient material, ~~in particular a spring steel band~~, which comprises:
 - [-] a first, extending limb (15) which ends in a first end region (22), and
 - [-] a second limb (25) which is curved outward in a C-shaped manner and which ends in a second end region (33) bent back into the an inside of the U-shape, and
 - [-] a connection arch (16) connecting the two first and second limbs (15, 25), ~~with which device (11),~~
 - [-] the two first and second end regions (22, 33) may be hung within one another selectively spread apart and thus the device band (11) may be repeatedly closed into a ring and opened again,
 - [-] wherein in the closure a closed position, the second end region (33) is led around the first end region (22) and in this position presses from the an outside against the first end region (22),
~~characterize in that~~
 - [-] ~~the first end region (22) and the bent-back second end region (33) which overlaps overlapping the first end region (22)) in the closure closed position, are designed and each having a plane-surfaced planar surface and extended in the a region of the overlapping, and are directed substantially parallel to one another in the closure closed position.~~

2. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising a layer (37) is formed on the an inner side of the band (13), ~~which consists consisting of a material with a higher friction coefficient compared to the elastically resilient material of the band, in particular of rubber, soft plastic, imitation leather or leather.~~

3. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized by further comprising a cover (37) completely enveloping the band (13), of a material with higher friction coefficient than steel, ~~e.g. of leather, plastic, or textile fabric, rubber or a combination of these materials.~~

4. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 3, characterized in that wherein the cover (37) ~~is designed as~~ comprises at least one of a flexible tubing ~~or~~ and a bag[,] extending said flexible tubing ~~or said bag being pushed over the band (13).~~

5. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 3, characterized in that wherein the cover (37) ~~at a short~~ has a first closed end is designed closed in a bag-like manner, and at the an oppositely lying ~~short~~ second end comprises the comprising a bag opening, said bag opening being closed with a separate closure part (39).

6. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 5, characterized in that wherein the closure part (39) is comprised of at least one of a metal clip ~~or~~ and a plastic clip which encompasses an end edge of the bent-back[,] second end region (33).

7. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 3, characterized in that wherein the cover (37) is formed by at least one of a coating ~~or the~~ and a peripheral casting (23) of the elastically resilient material of the band (13), ~~in particular by a peripheral injection moulding (23) with two component plastic.~~

8. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 3 ~~or 7~~, characterized by further comprising decorations (41), ~~e.g., with gems or a print on the cover (37), or by a watch (43) on the outer side of the cover (37).~~

9. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the cover (37) on the an inner side of the band (13) consists of different material than the cover (37) on the an outer side of the band (13).

10. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ on the inner side of the band (13), the cover (37) is manufactured of at least one of leather, or imitation leather, plastic or and textile fabric.

11. (Currently amended) A The device according to ~~one of the claims~~ claim 3 to 10, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ on the outer side of the band (13), the cover (37) is manufacture of at least one of leather, or imitation leather, plastic or and textile fabric.

12. (Currently amended) A The device according to claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims~~, ~~characterized in that further comprising~~, a first transmitter and/or receiver (43) is arranged ~~on the device~~ communicating device coupled to the band, which is equipped in order to communicate with a second transmitter and/or receiver (45) communicating device that is separated from the band[,] and which emits an alarm sound ~~from~~ when the first and second communicating devices are separated a certain distance from each other of the two communicating devices transmitters/receivers (43, 45) to one another.

13. (new) The device according to claim 1, wherein the elastically resilient material comprises spring steel.

14. (new) The device according to claim 2, wherein the layer is comprised of at least one of rubber, soft plastic, imitation leather and leather.

15. (new) The device according to claim 3, wherein the cover is comprised of at least one of leather, plastic, textile fabric, and rubber.

16. (new) The device according to claim 7, wherein the covering is comprised of a peripheral injection molding with two-component plastic.

17. (new) The device of claim 8, wherein the decorations comprise at least one of gems, a print on the cover and a watch.